

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A slidably detachable core member comprising a body section including:
  - two or more plate-like portions capable of being combined with each other to form a hollow cylinder; and
  - two or more sliding sections in cooperation with said plate-like portions, each individual sliding section having flexibility permitting it to be turned over and laid on an outer circumferential surface of each individual plate-like portion,
  - said body section further including at least one joint portion pivotally connecting said plate-like portions with each other, said joint portion being free from contact with said sliding sections.
2. (Original) A slidably detachable core member according to claim 1, wherein said plate-like portions comprise mutually independent parts.
3. (Previously Presented) A slidably detachable core member according to claim 1, wherein said plate-like portions are mutually adjoining in a form of said hollow cylinder.
4. (Original) A slidably detachable core member according to claim 3, wherein said joint portion is structured to deform under an external force to allow said mutually adjoining plate-like portions to be pivoted.
5. (Original) A slidably detachable core member according to claim 1, wherein said plate-like portions are respectively provided with engagable end faces capable of being engaged with each other in a form of said hollow cylinder; and wherein said body section further includes reinforcing portions formed in peripheral end regions, including said engagable

end faces, of said plate-like portions for holding said plate-like portions in a form of said hollow cylinder against an external force.

6. (Original) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 5, wherein said reinforcing portions are formed in said engagable end faces, adapted to be engaged with each other, of said mutually adjoining plate-like portions, and respectively include concave and convex configurations detachably fitted with each other.

7. (Previously Presented) A slidingly detachable core member according to claim 6, further comprising fastening sections releasably fastening said sliding sections, turned over and laid on said outer circumferential surface of said body section, on said outer circumferential surface.

8. (Previously Presented) A cold shrink tube unit comprising an elastic tube member with an opening end and a hollow cylindrical slidingly detachable core member removably provided inside a seal region of said elastic tube member, having a predetermined length from said opening end, to hold said seal region in an elastically expanded state, characterized in that:

said core member comprises a body section including:

two or more plate-like portions capable of being combined with each other to form said hollow cylinder;

two or more sliding sections in cooperation with said plate-like portions, each individual sliding section having flexibility permitting it to be turned over and laid on an outer circumferential surface of each individual plate-like portion of the body section;

said slidingly detachable core member is provided inside said seal region with said sliding section interposed between said body section and said seal region of said elastic tube member; and

said body section further including at least one joint portion pivotally connecting said plate-like portions with each other, said joint portion being free from contact with said sliding sections.

9. (Previously Presented) A slidably detachable core member according to claim 8, wherein each individual sliding section is integrally connected with an axial end of each individual plate-like portion.

10. (Previously Presented) A slidably detachable core member according to claim 1, wherein each individual sliding section is integrally connected with an axial end of each individual plate-like portion.